

XXVI.—Description of a new Species of Tiger-Moth in the possession of Mr. T. W. Wood. By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, F.Z.S.

[Plate IV. figs. 1–3.]

THE species of Tiger-Moth described in the present paper is the most beautiful that I have yet seen; it appears to be quite new, and to belong to the genus *Mazæras*, characterized by Mr. Walker in his 'Catalogue of the Lepidoptera Heterocera in the British Museum;' the *Eucharia sacrificæ* of Hübner's 'Zuträge exotischer Schmetterlinge' seems also to belong to this genus: all the species are South American. This group will now stand as follows:—

Genus MAZÆRAS, Walker

(Cat. Lep. Het. Brit. Mus. pt. iii. p. 632, genus 14.)

“Corpus longum, validum, cylindricum: proboscis corporis dimidio brevior: palpi ascendentes, longiusculi; articulus secundus arcuatus, primo multo longior; tertius conicus, minimus: antennæ mediocriter pectinatæ, corporis dimidio non longiores: abdomen alas posticas longe superans: pedes validi, longiusculi; tibiæ posticæ calcaribus quatuor longis. Alæ angustæ, sat longæ.”—*Lep. Het.*

Sp. 1. *Mazæras conferta*, Walker, p. 633.

“Saturate rufa; palpi apice nigri; antennæ nigrae; thorax oculo discali maculisque quatuor nigris: abdomen luteum, e maculis nigris trivittatum; tibiæ tarsique nigrae; alæ anticæ fuscae maculis rufis strigisque transversis testaceis.”—*Lep. Het.*

Exp. alar. unc.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ .

*Hab.* Brazil. ? ♀. B.M. Pl. IV. fig. 1.

Sp. 2. (*Eucharia*) *sacrificæ*, Hübner

(Zuträge exot. Schmett. figs. 473, 474 (1806).)

Olivaceo-fusca; thorax collo albicante; abdomen supra viridescens fasciatum, punctis lateralibus albis, ano rufescente: alæ anticæ roseo-albo fasciatæ, subtus ad marginem albo rubroque maculatæ: posticæ punctis marginalibus lunulatis maculisque quinque subapicalibus albidis; maculis submarginalibus rubris.

Exp. alar. unc.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ .

*Hab.* Ipaunema (Brazil).

The genus *Eucharia* is characterized by Hübner in his 'Verzeichniss,' p. 181. n. 1865–1867 (1816); he does not, however, include his *sacrificæ*, which certainly is not congeneric with those species which he does include.

Sp. 3. *Mazæras Woodii*, sp. nov. Pl. IV. figs. 2, 3.

♀. Alæ supra nigerrimæ; anticæ striola punctoque ad cellæ finem, subcostalibus et fascia lata angulis duobus alternis discum totum

interruptante luteo-ochreis, ad basim flavescens: posticæ macula luteo-ochrea subquadrata subapicali, a venis tripartita; fascia valde irregulari submarginali coccinea apud apicem attenuata: corpus nigerrimum; collo flavo fasciato; abdomine flavo fasciolato, fasciis regularibus in medio et ad latera interruptis; antennis palpisque nigris.

Alæ subtus nigerrimæ; anticæ macula discoidea apud cellæ finem, altera disco-cellulari, ovalibus, tertia triangulari subanali, striola apud marginem apicalem, punctoque basali, omnibus coccineis; macula submedia costali triangulari luteo-ochrea; fascia velut supra irregulari sed tripartita; punctis tribus submarginalibus apicalibus cinereis: posticæ puncto basali coccineo, aliter velut supra: corpus nigerrimum; pedes postici tarsis albido fasciolatis; segmentis abdominalibus minime flavo marginatis; ano flavo.

Exp. alar. unc.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

*Hab.* Bahia. Possidet T. W. Wood.

Most closely allied to *sacrifica*, but quite distinct; it does not show any pectinations to the antennæ, and the hind wings are proportionally larger than in *conferta*. This species has been kindly lent to me by my very obliging friend Mr. T. W. Wood.

XXVII.—*Notes on the Skulls of Hares (Leporidae) and Picas (Lagomyidae) in the British Museum.* By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S.

HAVING had occasion to examine the skulls of hares in the British Museum, I have made the following notes.

It has been usual to unite the Leporidae and Lagomyidae into one family; but the entire form of the skull forbids such a union, and I follow Professor Lilljeborg in regarding them as belonging to two distinct groups of the suborder Duplicidentata of Illiger.

Dr. Spencer Baird, in his excellent essay on the Hare of North America, has shown how the hares of that country might be divided into natural sections; and I have verified the accuracy of this from the skulls contained in the British Museum, and have added one or two groups for skulls which did not come under his observation.

The determination that the hare of the Holy Land is distinct from the common European hare is interesting. It is more allied to the hare of Tunis and the southern shore of the Mediterranean, and it may be only a large variety of that species; but there are several characters in the skull that make it probably a distinct kind.